

Dan Brand and Tipi

DRUMS! SMOKE SIGNALS!
THEY'RE CALLING A
COUNCIL OF WAR!
WE'VE GOT TO STOP
THAT, TIPI! LET'S GO!

WITH YOU,
BROTHER!

THE BEAT OF LOG DRUMS
THROB LIKE A HEART PULSE
THROUGH THE BACKWOODS
WILDERNESS. DOTTED CLOUDS
OF SMOKE SIGNAL THE CALL
OF THE TRIBES. THE OMINOUS,
PERVADING SILENCE FORETELLS
THE BATTLE, THE KILLING, THE
FLAMING PASSIONS TO COME!
DAN BRAND AND TIPI, INTREPID
TRAILBLAZERS OF OUR
COUNTRY'S EARLY HISTORY,
CAN SENSE THIS LURKING
TERROR IN THE AIR! THEIR
EYES AND EARS FINELY
TUNED TO THE SIGNS OF
COMING HORROR, THEY
MAKE FAST AND HARD
DECISIONS IN—
"THE WAR OF THE RIVER!"

Frank Frazetta

AT THE INDIAN CAMP, CHIEF WARNING THUNDER SPEAKS...

WARRIORS! OUR SCOUTS REPORT A GREAT TRIBE
OF WHITE SETTLERS COMING OVER THE MOUNTAIN
HEIGHTS, ENTERING OUR
BELOVED LAND! MY
BRAVES, WE MUST
TAKE THE WARPATH
AGAINST THEM!

KILL! KILL THEM ALL! IF WE DO NOT, THEY
WILL SOON TAKE OUR LANDS AWAY FROM US,
LIKE ALL THE WHITES!
KILL! KILL! KILL!
STRIKE NOW!





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THE DURANGO KID



NO! YOU ARE WRONG! LISTEN TO ME — FOR I AM EYE OF HAWK, SECOND IN RANK ONLY TO WARNING THUNDER...



I SAY THAT THIS WILL ONLY LEAD TO MORE WARS THAT WILL WIPE OUT ALL OF US! WE MUST FIND WAYS OF LIVING IN PEACE WITH THE WHITE MAN!



SUDDENLY—APPEARING AMONG THEM, AS THOUGH FROM NOWHERE!

EYE OF HAWK IS RIGHT!

A WHITE MAN AMONG US!



THERE IS NO STOPPING THE MARCH OF HISTORY! THE SETTLERS WILL COME DESPITE EVERYTHING! LIVE AT PEACE WITH THEM — AND GREAT RICHES WILL COME TO THE LAND. BUT IF YOU MAKE WAR — SOLDIERS WILL COME, THERE WILL BE DESTRUCTION AND DEATH—AND NO ONE WILL GAIN!



THE WHITE MAN SPEAKS TRUTH!

NO! THE WHITE MAN SPEAKS LIES! AND I AM YOUR CHIEF — YOU WILL OBEY ME! I, CHIEF WARNING THUNDER, SAY—



—SEIZE THE INVADER! KILL HIM! WE WILL SEND HIS SCALP BY ARROW INTO THE HEART OF THE SETTLERS' CHIEF!

KILL! KILL! KILL!



I DON'T AGREE, GENTLEMEN!

THE DURANGO KID



THE DURANGO KID

DAN TELLS HIS STORY...

...AND SO I WARN YOU NOT TO TAKE THE TRAILS. YOU'LL GET AMBUSHED AND MASSACRED FOR SURE! THEY'RE OUT TO KILL!

WE COME THIS FAR, AN' BY GUM, WE AIN'T TURNIN' BACK! WE AIM TO SETTLE ON THEM RICH LANDS DOWN ALONG THE RIVER! TELL US WHAT TO DO, DAN BRAND!

THEN SETTLE ON THOSE LANDS YOU SHALL! HAVE ALL ABLE-BODIED MEN GRAB THEIR AXES AND FOLLOW ME!



DAN LEADS THE SETTLERS TO A NEARBY PINE FOREST AND SOON A MIGHTY ACTIVITY CLAMORS THROUGH THE WILDERNESS...

TIM-BER!



AND SOON, STRANGE-LOOKING CRAFT BEGIN TO TAKE SHAPE AT THE RIVER'S EDGE.

ONE HUNDRED FEET LONG! THAT SHOULD BE BIG ENOUGH FOR A COUPLE OF FAMILIES, CATTLE AND ALL! NOW LET US BUILD WALLS—THESE WILL BE **FLOATING FORTS!**



THE FIRST FLEET OF "FORTIFIED RAFTS" FLOATS DOWN THE RIVER WITH THE CURRENT!

WE'RE OFF!



THIS IS NO GUARANTEE THAT WE WON'T BE ATTACKED, EVEN ON THE RIVER—BUT WE'LL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE TO DEFEND OURSELVES THIS WAY!



THE DURANGO KID



THE DURANGO KID



SOME WAY MUST BE FOUND TO BRING **PEACE!** LET'S GO, **TUPI!**

WITH YOU, **BROTHER!**



THIS MAY COST US OUR LIVES, **LITTLE BROTHER!**

SWIM ON, DAN!



THEY OUGHT TO REASSEMBLE FARTHER DOWN THE RIVER AND HAVE A **POW-WOW**. WE ARE GOING TO WALK RIGHT INTO THE MIDDLE OF THAT **COUNCIL!**



AT THAT MOMENT, WARNING THUNDER CALLS HIS BEATEN WARRIORS TO A COUNCIL OF WAR.

FROM THIS POINT WE WILL RAIN ARROWS DOWN UPON THE **SETTLERS!**

NO! WE HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF SLAUGHTER—LET THERE BE PEACE!



ACCORDING TO OUR TRADITIONS, A DEFEATED CHIEF IS NO LONGER CHIEF! THEREFORE, **I, EYE OF HAWK—AM YOUR NEW LEADER!** AND I SAY TO MAKE PEACE WITH THE **WHITE MEN!**

HE IS RIGHT—IT IS OUR **LAW!**



BUT SOME LAWS MUST BE **BROKEN!** AND THE SKULLS OF COWARDS MUST BE **BROKEN!** DIE, **EYE OF HAWK—DIE!**



BUT, SUDDENLY, FROM THE BUSHES—JUST IN TIME—!

THE WHITE INVADER!

THE DURANGO KID

I WANTED TO TALK PEACE—
BUT IF IT'S A FIGHT YOU WANT...

THEN IT'S FIGHT
YOU'LL GET!

I WILL DIE, WHITE MAN—FOR LIFE
IS OVER FOR ME. I HAVE LOST
A BATTLE AND I AM NO
LONGER CHIEF...



... BUT **YOU** DIE WITH ME!
MA-BO DAKINO RA! ANCESTORS,
I COME!

AND THE TWO MEN, LOCKED IN A GRIP OF DEATH,
DISAPPEAR INTO THE BLACK WATERS!

DAN! OH, DAN!
MY BROTHER—
(SOB!)



BUT—AFTER WHAT SEEMS LIKE AN ETERNITY—
ONE MAN RISES!

IT'S DAN!

IT'S THE WHITE
MAN—THE SETTLERS'
WARRIOR!

I HAVE KILLED
ONE OF YOUR CHIEFS—
YET I SAY I COME
IN PEACE!

I BELIEVE YOU, DAN BRAND—
FOR YOU SAVED MY LIFE! AND
I SWEAR, MY FRIEND—THAT AS
LONG AS I AM CHIEF, THERE
WILL BE PEACE AND FRIEND-
SHIP!

